

TRIBUTE TO MAE LILLIAN
MITCHELL

HON. TOM LATHAM

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 14, 2010

Mr. LATHAM. Madam Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Mae Lillian Mitchell of Boone, Iowa, on the recent celebration of her 100th birthday on August 26, 2010.

Mae was born on August 26, 1910 in Keystone, Iowa. In 1944, she married Raymond B. Mitchell and they were together until his death, when he was ninety-one years old. They have two children, Lois and David; and have two grandchildren, Melissa and Andy. Mae is currently residing at the Evangelical Free Church Home in Boone, Iowa. She maintains an extensive collection of poetry and a collection of antique porcelain dolls.

There have been many changes that have occurred during the past one hundred years. Since Mae's birth we have revolutionized air travel and walked on the moon. We have invented the television and the Internet. We have fought in wars overseas, seen the rise and fall of Soviet communism and the birth of new democracies. Mae has lived through eighteen United States Presidents and twenty-two Governors of Iowa. In her lifetime, the population of the United States has more than tripled.

I know that my colleagues in the United States Congress join me in sending warm wishes to Mae on the milestone of her 100th birthday. I am extremely honored to represent her in Congress, and I wish her happiness and health for many more years to come.

RECOGNITION OF CHARLES RUSSELL FOR HIS BRAVERY AND SERVICE IN IRAQ

HON. MARY JO KILROY

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 14, 2010

Ms. KILROY. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor Charles Russell for his inspiring work to help rebuild the Iraqi agricultural sector. As a civilian volunteer, Mr. Russell not only helped those directly affected by his service, but also contributed to the overall rebuilding of the Iraqi community.

Along with our men and women in uniform, volunteers such as Charles Russell are an integral part of our mission in Iraq and Afghanistan. Born in Boston, Massachusetts, Mr. Russell grew up in Cleveland, Ohio and became an agricultural statistician and expert in the United States Department of Agriculture's National Agricultural Statistics Service in Reynoldsburg, Ohio.

Selflessly leaving his family and home, Mr. Russell volunteered to serve 16 months helping people he had never met. Mr. Russell served as a USDA Provincial Reconstruction Team (PRT) agricultural expert on both the embedded PRT-Baghdad 4 and the embedded PRT-Baghdad South in Baghdad Province. He was one of the only civilians in these groups.

Mr. Russell tirelessly worked to create the Mahmudiyah Higher Agricultural Association

(MHAA), a non-governmental organization dedicated to helping Iraqi farmers get access to new technologies, equipment, and low-cost credit. Additionally, Mr. Russell helped the Iraqi people strengthen their communities, improve management of natural resources, and rebuild agricultural markets. For his work he received the U.S. Department of State's meritorious honor award for his sustained, dedicated, and successful efforts. As John D. Brewer, the Foreign Agricultural Service administrator, said, "the efforts of people like Charles are crucial for helping to create stable, democratic, and economically viable societies in countries like Iraq."

I commend Mr. Russell for his undeniable dedication, outstanding personal character, and unwavering commitment to those less fortunate than himself. On September 8, 2010, the United States Department of Agriculture honored Mr. Russell at its Service Recognition Ceremony for USDA employees that have completed deployments in Afghanistan and Iraq. I am proud to recognize and honor Charles Russell for his efforts and patriotism.

CONGRATULATING THE INTERNATIONAL TAOIST TAI CHI SOCIETY ON THEIR 40TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. HARRY E. MITCHELL

OF ARIZONA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 14, 2010

Mr. MITCHELL. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate the International Taoist Tai Chi Society on their organization's 40th anniversary.

Predominantly managed by volunteers, the Taoist Tai Chi Society instructs members in internal arts and methods which focus on recovering, improving, and maintaining health and wellness. In following the aims and objectives of its founder, Master Moy Lin-shin, the society also promotes preserving the "essence of tradition in the modern world" and the "dual cultivation of mind and body."

With locations in more than 25 countries around the world, the International Taoist Tai Chi Society unites individuals of different cultures and dialects, creating an international community. I am pleased to note that, in my own 5th Congressional District, the society opened a non-profit, Arizona Chapter in 2008. This chapter has both helped to improve the health of members in my district and facilitate their connection with others throughout the world interested in similar practices.

Madam Speaker, please join me in recognizing the Arizona Chapter of the International Taoist Tai Chi Society and the entire organization on its 40th anniversary.

RECOGNIZING THE MICHIGAN ECONOMIC DEVELOPERS ASSOCIATION

HON. DALE E. KILDEE

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 14, 2010

Mr. KILDEE. Madam Speaker, I ask the House of Representatives to join me in con-

gratulating the Michigan Economic Developers Association as they celebrate their 50th anniversary. The year-long celebration will culminate during their annual meeting this week in Traverse City Michigan.

The Michigan Economic Developers Association was formed in 1960 to assist local economic development organizations. Over the years they have provided education, information and training to local economic development leaders. Currently 470 members representing all parts of Michigan form the leadership team committed to training economic development practitioners and advancing the economic climate of the State.

Madam Speaker, I am proud to be able to congratulate the members of the Michigan Economic Development Association as they celebrate 50 years of leadership in the economic development arena. The men and women of the Association have volunteered their time, energy, resources and insight to improve the economic climate of the State of Michigan and I wish them the best as they develop new, innovative ideas for our communities.

RECOGNIZING THE 50TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE CREATION OF REAL ESTATE INVESTMENT TRUSTS

HON. PATRICK J. TIBERI

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 14, 2010

Mr. TIBERI. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize the 50th anniversary of the creation of real estate investment trusts and congratulate the National Association of Real Estate Investment Trusts on 50 years of service to their membership.

Real Estate Investment Trusts (REITs) opened the door for all investors to participate in large-scale commercial real estate investments. Prior to the passage of tax law in 1960 that provided for the establishment of REITs, this opportunity was generally available only to large financial institutions and wealthy individuals through direct investment in the real estate.

Today, REITs own approximately \$500 billion of commercial real estate assets and 132 REITs are traded on the New York Stock Exchange. Last year, REITs paid out approximately \$13.5 billion in dividends. This access to publically traded and regulated securities has expanded investment and diversification opportunities for millions of Americans and provided more options as they plan and invest for their retirement security.

REITs have become an important piece of the U.S. economy and investment markets, and I congratulate the industry on their 50th anniversary.

HONORING LOU SANDERS

HON. CAROLYN MCCARTHY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, September 14, 2010

Mrs. MCCARTHY of New York. Madam Speaker, I rise in honor of Lou Sanders for an